



General Assembly

January Session, 2001

House Resolution No. 11

LCO No. 3690

Referred to Committee on No Committee

Introduced by:

REP. LYONS, 146th Dist.
REP. PUDLIN, 24th Dist.
REP. WARD, 86th Dist.
REP. CAFERO, 142nd Dist.
REP. FLAHERTY, 68th Dist.

REP. RYAN, 141st Dist.
REP. BERNHARD, 136th Dist.
REP. KNOPP, 137th Dist.
REP. CLEMMONS, 140th Dist.
SEN. GENUARIO, 25th Dist.

***RESOLUTION EXPRESSING SYMPATHY ON THE DEATH OF
THOMAS C. O'CONNOR.***

1 WHEREAS, Thomas C. O'Connor of Norwalk, Connecticut, died on
2 January 16, 2001; and

3 WHEREAS, he was State Representative, representing the people of
4 the city of Norwalk, in 1978, and served on the Committees on General
5 Law and Public Personnel and Military Affairs; and

6 WHEREAS, he was the Mayor of the city of Norwalk in 1982 to
7 1983, and was also a member of the Common Council of the city of
8 Norwalk;

9 WHEREAS, he was a graduate of Fairfield University in its first
10 graduating class, after preparation at St. Mary School, Center Junior
11 High School, and Norwalk High School; and

12 WHEREAS, he served two tours of duty with the U. S. Navy Air
13 Force, first in World War II and then in the Korean War; and

14 WHEREAS, he was a history teacher in the junior high school and
15 middle school levels in the Norwalk school system for more than
16 thirty-five years, and also worked nights and weekends for many
17 years as a new car salesperson in Norwalk; and

18 WHEREAS, he was unstinting in his efforts for veterans, and was
19 considered among the most patriotic persons the city of Norwalk has
20 ever known, having been a major force in resurrecting a World War II
21 Honor Roll in Norwalk, and bringing it up to date four decades after it
22 had been dismantled, and in revitalizing a memorial to a Vietnam War
23 of Honor recipient in the city of Norwalk; and

24 WHEREAS, he was a founder of the Heritage Wall in Norwalk,
25 which has given a patina of cultural history to the Route 7 entrance
26 ramp;

27 WHEREAS, he was well known for his support for athletics by
28 young people in Norwalk, rarely missing a sporting event of the
29 Norwalk High School athletic teams, which followed his earlier years
30 as a football player in high school and as a football official of high
31 school games in Fairfield County, a lifetime of dedication for which he
32 was honored by the Norwalk Old-Timers Athletic Association in 2000;
33 and

34 WHEREAS, he was greatly respected and regarded for his kindness
35 and dedication to the people of the city of Norwalk, considered a very
36 special person with a very big heart; and

37 WHEREAS, he leaves behind many friends and family including his
38 wife, Jean Vadas O'Connor of Norwalk; his mother, Dorothy Page
39 O'Connor of Norwalk; a son, Daniel T. O'Connor of Bridgeport; a
40 daughter, Colleen O'Connor Caranci of Ashely Falls, Massachusetts; a
41 brother, John P. O'Connor of Norwalk; a sister, Maureen O'Connor

42 McGarty of Norwalk, and several nieces and nephews.

43 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the House of
44 Representatives expresses its sincere and heartfelt condolences on the
45 passing of Thomas C. O'Connor, whose death is a profound loss to the
46 people of Norwalk and to the State of Connecticut; and

47 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the clerk of the House of
48 Representatives cause copy of this resolution be sent to the family of
49 Thomas C. O'Connor as an expression of the high esteem in which he
50 was held.